



# THE GATHERING

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT \*

MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2026 11:00AM AT FAIRHOPE UMC

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**Preaching:** Dr. Kristen Curtis Wright

**Liturgists:** Alicia Searcy

**Communion Servers:** Allison Floyd, Emily Garner, Diana & Jack Justis

**Music:** Shea White and Praise Band

**Media and Sound:** Cole Jones, Karl Langley, Jamie Waldhour

**Stephen Minister:** Kathy Ellis

**Ushers:** Rick Fitzhugh, Charles Scarce, Phil Webb

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*\*Our worship seasons allow us to re-experience the full life and ministry of Jesus every year. The season of Lent is a period of 40 days, inspired by Jesus' 40 days of temptation in the wilderness. In this season of prayer, fasting, and charity, we turn our attention to Jesus' sacrifice for us.*

OPENING SONG                    *Hosanna (Praise is Rising)*

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 63

SINGING OUR PRAISE

*Who You Say I Am*

*No Longer Slaves*

*How Great Is Our God*

*Lead Me to the Cross*

*Children who are in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade can meet at the side door for Children's Church. They are to be picked up immediately following the service in the Pier Room upstairs in the Education Building.*

*Nursery is available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.*

SCRIPTURE                                    *Matthew 21:12-17*

SERMON                                    *A Place for the Voices of Children*

CONFESSION AND PARDON

God of praise, we confess that we sometimes make faith too complicated and forget the wisdom you place on the lips of children. We silence small voices, rush past holy curiosity, and fail to shape our life together for those who are still learning your name. Forgive us, and give us hearts willing to love, protect, and build a church where children can flourish in joy and trust.

Hear the good news: God delights in praise that rises freely and fully from every generation. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~ THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

BENEDICTION

## THIS WEEK

### SUNDAY, MARCH 15

8:30am Traditional Worship

9:45am Sunday Schools

11:00am Traditional Worship

11:00am Gathering Worship

### MONDAY, MARCH 16

9:15am Walk & Talk with Jesus

10:00am Knit & Crochet for a

Purpose

1:00pm Caring Ministry's Listening Session

3:00pm Grief Support Group

6:00pm Stephen Ministry

Supervision

### TUESDAY, MARCH 17

7:00am Youth Breakfast Club

9:30am Fruit of the Spirit Study

9:30am Caregiver's Support Group

5:30pm Handbell Choir

6:00pm Anchored in Hope

Infertility & Loss Support Group

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry

1:30pm Dr. Ann's Drop-in Bible Study

4:15pm Lighthouse Children's

Choir

5:00pm Wednesday Night Supper

6:00pm Dr. Kristen's Drop-In

Lenten Study

6:00pm Chancel Choir Practice

6:00pm Youth vs Parent Game

Night

6:00pm Pier Kids & Swift Ministry

### THURSDAY, MARCH 19

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry

### FRIDAY, MARCH 20

11:00am-1pm Community Café

### SUNDAY, MARCH 22

8:30am Traditional Worship

9:45am Sunday Schools

11:00am Traditional Worship

11:00am Gathering Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WEDNESDAY SUPPER MENU ~ MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>

**BAKED HAM, SQUASH CASSEROLE, BROCCOLI & RICE,  
ROLLS, SALTED CARAMEL BROWNIE**

**Kids: Popcorn Chicken, Mac-N-Cheese, Fruit, Cookie**

Go online or call the church office to make your reservation!

### EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE, APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>

**8:00am, 9:30am, & 11:00am Traditional**

**11:00 Gathering**

### Caring Ministries Listening Session | March 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm

Join us in room B-114 to share ideas, reflect on current ministries, and dream about what's next. For more information, contact Dr. Ann Pearson at [ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org) or 251-928-1148.

### Easter Family Celebration | March 25<sup>th</sup> 5:00-7:00pm

Join for an evening of egg-citement, games, and hidden surprises. Dinner served at 5pm, activities and egg-hunt start at 6:00pm. All are welcome!

### Easter Snapdragon Sale | March 2<sup>nd</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>

Help us fill our worship spaces with beautiful Easter snapdragons! Plants are \$12 each and may be given in honor or in memory of someone you love. The flowers will decorate our worship spaces on Easter Sunday and may be picked up after the services. Use QR code to order!

### Vacation Bible School Registration | April 1<sup>st</sup>

Get ready for a fun and faith-filled week of VBS, June 1-5! Open registration begins March 29, with early registration available for those planning to volunteer. To learn more about VBS or how you can serve, please call the church office or email [martha.monckton@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:martha.monckton@fairhopeumc.org) or [jillmcjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:jillmcjohnston@gmail.com).

### Youth Egg Drop | April 4<sup>th</sup>

Support Youth Missions this Easter with our Easter Egg Drop! Our Youth will deliver and hide candy-filled eggs in your yard the night before Easter. Sign up using the QR code and let us make Easter morning easy and fun!

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

FIRST FAIRHOPE BAPTIST CHURCH | SHEPHERD'S PLACE | PEOPLE IN POVERTY

## HOSPITALIZED

Dot McClure, Kin Reynolds, Jolene Schmitt, Roger Tyer

## SYMPATHY

Deborah and Barry Pennington in the loss of his sister, and  
Erin and Richard Jones in the loss of her aunt, Suzanne Cowart.  
Betty Stejskal and family in the loss of her brother, Charlie Odom.  
Lynn White and family in the loss of her husband, Mike White.

**Monthly Finance Report:** Giving for 2025 came in just shy of our anticipated budget. but about \$15,000 ahead of our expenses, creating for a net surplus for the year. In addition, we received our Employee Retention Credit from the IRS, creating a \$400,000+ total surplus for the year. This allows us to plan for some overdue facility maintenance, including phase two of sealing our brick and masonry. We are still reconciling our expenses from January; giving for the month was about \$6,000 short of January expectation.

If you would like more information about church membership, contact one of our pastors or attend **Coffee with the Pastors on April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 9:45AM in the Christian Life Center Parlor.** Look for directional signs on Sunday morning.

**ONE LINK. ALL THE INFO.** Want to sign up? Volunteer? Register your kids? RSVP for an event? Scan the QR code to access all of Fairhope UMC's resources in one place! Stay in the loop...**SCAN NOW!**



**FAIRHOPE**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**"LOVE BOLDLY, CASTING THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD"**

REV. MICHAEL PRECHT, SENIOR PASTOR  
DR. KRISTEN CURTIS WRIGHT, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

REV. SHEILA BATES, SOUTHWEST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT  
BISHOP L. JONATHAN HOLSTON, ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE

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